



STATE OF MAINE  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
**MAINE STATE PLANNING OFFICE**  
38 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

MARTHA E. FREEMAN  
DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program Plan  
Available for Public Review**

The Maine Coastal Program, State Planning Office announces the availability for public review and comment of the State's program plan for the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program. The draft plan can be found at <http://www.state.me.us/spo/mcp/celcp.php>

The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) is a federal program administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which is aimed at supporting state and local land conservation projects that protect significant and high priority coastal and marine resources. Although funds are not currently appropriated to this program, NOAA is seeking to position states to participate in the program when it is funded.

This program plan is required to qualify the State of Maine to nominate coastal land conservation projects for federal funding from the CELCP. The plan will be reviewed and approved by NOAA in advance of funding availability.

Public review and comments of the draft plan are requested; deadline for comments is May 27, 2005. Questions, comments, and suggestions can be directed to Jim Connors, Maine Coastal Program, ph: 207-287-8938, email [jim.connors@maine.gov](mailto:jim.connors@maine.gov).

Copies of the draft plan can be obtained from Lorraine Lessard, Maine Coastal Program, ph: 207-287-1486, email: [lorraine.lessard@maine.gov](mailto:lorraine.lessard@maine.gov)

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